

**The Ontario Argus**

G. K. AIKEN, Editor and Publisher

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**PRINCIPLES, NOT THE MAN**

The place that a political party holds in the scheme of government in the United States is often the subject of dispute. The serious student of history or civil government never champions the cause of those who would abolish parties.

Those who would discard the party system assume a serious handicap. They must not only prove that parties are not the proper means; that through the history of the United States they have failed to function; but they must also prove the superiority of the individual leadership in advancing and securing acceptance of political principles. This, we believe, is a large undertaking.

It is a truism that principles are immutable; that men are fallible. Under different conditions men act differently. It has been too often proven true to be disputed that men elected to office find that they can not or will not adhere to the measures they advocated during the campaign—the measures themselves may be ever so good but the men who advanced them lacked the courage to carry them forward, or some other reason, often undiscernible, failed to act.

There are other reasons, however, that makes it dangerous for a nation to put its trust in individual leadership, the most important of which is the liability for error in judgment of the man.

It is impossible for the people as a whole to know any of the men who might aspire to the pinnacle of individual leadership. The vastness of our country proves that; while in the case of principles pronounced by party platforms; these can be examined by the rules of logic and discriminating judgment anywhere, and at any time.

Principles can only be successfully translated into action by the co-operative effort of those who adhere to them—that means political parties. Scattered individuals, no matter how great their faith in what they believe to be the true course of action for the nation can accomplish nothing—organization is required to place these doctrines before the people.

There are too many examples of the truth of this statement to permit of its contradiction. Witness the slavery question: Wendell Phillips, John Brown and hosts of others agitated this question for years, but it took the crystallized efforts, thru the agency of a political party and a war to achieve the ends sought. Woman's Suffrage, Prohibition and many other great reforms during the past half century, failed until the political parties endorsed them.

The history of early republics is replete with examples of the failure of individual leadership and personal parties giving allegiance to the man instead of the government or party. In our own nation, most pointed example of this is shown in the effects of the election of James Monroe,

during the so-called "era of good feeling." It followed by the most bitter of political campaigns in which the personality of the candidates, and not a studied examination of what they stood for was the issue.

It is to be noted that most of those who condemn political parties do not profess adherence to any. They proclaim their "independence." But what has this independence of action ever accomplished? The records of each of the great parties may be carefully studied and to the credit of each can be found constructive legislation, but the independent campaign point to no such record.

If instead of boasting of independence the "Independent" would get into one or the other of the major parties and so impress his views upon the rank and file, there is no doubt, that if logical and desirable, for the good of the nation, his views would become part of the platform of the party and results thereby obtained.

**TWIN SESSIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE**

There is being created a demand for a change in the present manner of holding sessions of the Oregon legislature. The forty day session is in disrepute. The dissatisfaction with the mode now prevalent was evidenced by the lamented "special session" of recent date.

The reformers are centering their propaganda on the California system of a bifurcated session and arguments are being presented for and against this innovation. Its success in California is a matter of dispute.

According to the California system all bills are introduced during the first session of the lawmaking body, which lasts for thirty days. During that time the proposed laws are read once and referred to the proper committees. These committees present their reports during this session and all amendments must be introduced and considered during this time. Then the lawmakers take a recess and go to their homes for thirty days—ostensibly to study the measures, give their constituents an opportunity to be heard on any of them and thus have time to deliberate judiciously on how to vote.

Also during this time all the bills are printed and sent forth to the newspapers and to the commercial bodies or anyone who desires a copy so that the public will know what is going to happen at the second session of lawmaking when the solons return from their homes.

At first glance this looks like a mighty good system—it might help a great deal to stop the "putting over" of pet measures, but that is not the result in California, according to some well informed critics.

We believe however that there is sufficient merit in this system to make it worthy of a trial—but when it is tried the voters should see to it that they send men to the lawmaking bodies who are really capable, and who are not the kind to "put things over." That type of man in control will make any system a good one.

**RESULTS EVIDENT NOW.**

One of the worst pieces of road leading to Ontario in years past was that stretch thru the cut on the east-side of the interstate bridge. Today that piece of highway is in as good condition as one could ask for, save

the fact that there are a few ruts which will soon disappear.

Evidence of the condition of this piece of road may be found in the fact that any make of a car will go up the hill, "on high," without trouble.

Credit for this condition is due to the good work of the Council's road committee headed by Mayor P. W. Jones, and the directors of the inland good roads district. They solved the problem at a very small expense. The drains that were placed at the side of the road are carrying off a large volume of water and are showing thus the efficiency of the drainage. The slight dampened condition of the surface in sections comes from surface water that will be gone in a short time. The people of Ontario and the Portland Bench, while they may not say so are, when they stop to think about it, thankful that the problem has been solved, and due credit should be given the men who accomplished this result.

**WHAT ONE RANCHER DID**

C. T. Lackey, who lives on the road near the Shoestring Ditch about half way to Nyssa, did a constructive piece of road work recently. Mr. Lackey got his team into action and dragged about a mile and a half of road. It made travel easier for himself and for his neighbors, it saved the county money.

There is no doubt that all the roads in this section would be vastly improved by timely dragging, and the success that Mr. Lackey achieved is worthy of emulation. Some day when the state highway system is completed in this section, the Highway commission will institute the section system and have all the roads patrolled. Until that time the County Court might determine whether or not it can inaugurate such a system. The county will have to do something about the roads that are not on the State program anyway, and there is no time like the present to investigate the merits of the proposed patrol system with the work divided among the ranchers along the roads who will be benefitted by keeping them in shape.

**DEMONSTRATE TOP-GRAFT OF APPLE TREES**

G. W. Lattig of Oregon Slope Bureau Will Do Work in April—Scions Should Be Taken Now and Properly Stored.

If you are interested in learning how to top-graft apple trees, watch for an announcement of the exact date on which G. W. Lattig will be at this work. A demonstration will be given then to which everyone interested is invited. If you want to do any of his work this spring, be sure to cut the scions now and put them in cold storage or bury them in sand where it is cold.

HOUSE and 4 lots for rent, furnished, furniture new; also Maxwell car, almost new, for sale. All one deal. Bargain, your chance to get them cheap.—P. M. Madden, right west of hospital.

**Ladies' Wrist Watches**

Due to its popularity, the wrist watch, especially the American-made products, have been almost impossible to obtain. At present we have a large stock on hand and if you are contemplating getting a wrist watch in the near future it will pay you to look our stock over.

We have the Elgin, Waltham and Illinois watches and a few Swiss, in different grade movements and different style cases.

**Blackaby Jewelry Store**  
THE GIFT SHOP

Ontario,

Oregon

**What Science is Doing for Your Family Washing**

The modern laundry renders a service far superior to that which many of its patrons suspect.

For instance, the Laundryowners National Association maintains a department of research in the Mellon Institute of Industrial Research, University of Pittsburg, Pa., which is conducted quite as much in the interests of laundry patrons as for laundry owners.

Among its many activities is the analyzing of the various city waters—advising laundrymen of scientific methods for making their water supply most suitable for laundry purposes—furnishing exact formulas for transforming the hard city water into a water as soft and as pure as that which falls from the clouds.

**Effect of Hard City Water**

In many cities the water is so hard with the action of approved laundry that satisfactory family washings can only be done by the power laundry. The city water leaves the clothes dingy, yellow and harsh. The Institute also gives exact information about the different laundry supplies used by the laundryman, and their effect upon the various textiles entrusted to his care. This service has been developed to a point where the modern laundryman knows quite as much about textiles as the manufacturer who made them; more, undoubtedly, about their proper handling in the wash. And this knowledge he uses in a most efficient way. Here is another significant fact, which has been clearly proved by careful tests. The modern laundry methods practically provide complete sanitation and immunity from attacks of germ life. The heat of the baths, drying tumblers, and ironing tables, together with the action of approved laundry soap, effects a hygienic result unobtainable by other methods. In fact, the modern laundry is probably the most sanitary of all public service institutions. Should we attempt a detailed description of all the methods and systems employed we should weary, but quite as surely surprise you. Science, the often unappreciated servant of the human family, is doing great things for the family washing. It has placed the housewife in a position to shift one more irksome household burden, and in the doing, provide more time for herself and broader and better service for her family. By all means use the power laundry freely for all kinds of washing, with the assurance that there are no better methods; and that the cost is no more than other methods which cannot, and do not, measure up to the power laundry.

**Rain Water Jones' Ontario Laundry**



For This Month Only--

**Special Sale of Electric Vacuum Cleaners**

We are making our offer of a special easy payment plan for this month on all our electric vacuum cleaners. Five dollars down and \$5 each month with your regular electric light bill and you can do your sweeping and dusting economically and rapidly while paying for it.

These electric vacuum cleaners are easy to operate and will do your daily cleaning as well as general housecleaning, for only a few cents a day. With one you can clean rugs, carpets, upholstery and portieres. It will brighten the colors and add years to the wear.

Phone us and we will be glad to send out one of these electric vacuum cleaners and demonstrate it in your home. Ask about our special sale prices.

**The Electric Shop Idaho Power Co.**